

STATE OF GEORGIA Division of Family and Children Services

Nathan Deal Governor Bobby D. Cagle Director

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM MANUAL TRANSMITTAL NO. 44

- **TO:** OFI District Management, County Department of Family and Children Services, State Office Staff
- FROM: Bobby D. Cagle DFCS Director
- **DATE:** September 8, 2016
- **RE:** Food Stamp Program Manual Transmittal 44

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide updates to the Food Stamp Program's Employment and Training (E&T) policy. ABAWDs residing in Cobb, Gwinnett and Hall counties are subject to the 3/36 time-limit for ABAWDs. These ABAWDs may volunteer to participate in the SNAP Works Program and are not subject to food stamp work sanctions.

The E&T Program continues to operate a mandatory work program in the following 10 counties: Bulloch; Chatham; Clayton; Cobb; Douglas; DeKalb; Glynn; Gwinnett; Hall; Henry and Rockdale. The mandatory program will not serve all ABAWDs residing in the mandatory service areas. ABAWDs in the ten (10) counties are eligible to participate in an E&T Pilot Study that was awarded to Georgia in March 2015. The study is conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and its partners, MDRC (Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation), Mathematica and other evaluation/research groups. The project study will end on February 28, 2019.

Additionally, this transmittal provides updates to the ABAWD Work requirements, work registration exemptions and mandatory FS work registrant statuses.

The policy revisions include:

- Updates to time-limited ABAWD participation requirements;
- Changes to time-limited ABAWD failure to cooperate with the SNAP Works Program penalty;
- Updates to some of the mandatory work registrant definitions as well as the verification requirements for those definitions.

This transmittal is effective September 1, 2016.